

the opportunity to recognize him for his service to the South Jersey community. God Bless Mark and God Bless America.

REMEMBERING HERMAN ZERGER

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 1, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mr. Herman "Zerg" Zerger, Jr., of Woodsfield, Ohio. Herman Zerger passed away on Friday, October 22, 2021 at the Arbors of Woodsfield, Ohio.

He was born at Woodsfield, Ohio on January 5, 1924, a son of the late Herman and Sylvia Mowder Zerger. Herman was a 1942 graduate of Woodsfield High School, Woodsfield, Ohio and was also a retired owner and operator of Zerger's Quarry for over 50 years. He served 10 years as a Special Duty Sheriff in Monroe County and was elected five consecutive terms as Center Township Trustee. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Woodsfield, Ohio. During WWII in 1942, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as a Platoon Sergeant with Rifle Co. I-141st Infantry, 36th Infantry Division. He fought 300 days on the front line in 31 battles in both Italy and France. He cast his first vote (for Franklin Delano Roosevelt) from a foxhole facing the Germans before being taken as a prisoner on February 3, 1945 by the SS troops.

He was one of the founding charter members of the V.F.W. Post 5303, Woodsfield, Ohio where he served as a trustee for 40 years and the 40 & 8 Grand Voiture of Ohio No. 363 where he served as Chaplain. He is a life member in Ohio Chapter No. 1 American Ex-Prisoner of War; Life Member of American Legion Post No. 87, Woodsfield, Ohio; former member of the Monroe County Democratic Central and Executive Committee where he served as the Monroe County Democratic Chairman for 45 years, being the longest serving county chair in Ohio; life-long Trustee of the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 8; charter member of the 141st Infantry Regiment 36th Division; life member of Veterans Battle of the Bulge, Buckeye Ohio Chapter No. 1; life member of the Combat Infantryman's Association; Ohio Combat Infantryman's Association; Akron Chapter C.I.B.; life member of the Texas 36th Infantryman's Association; life member of Midwest Chapter 36th Division Association 141st Regiment Co. I; American Order of the French Croix de Guerre, Inc.; 5th Army Association; life member of American Ex-Prisoners of War No. 9114; life member of the Ohio Chapter No. 1 American Ex-Prisoners of War; charter member and former vice commander of Mid-Ohio Valley Chapter 15 Ex-Prisoners of War; charter member Mid-Ohio Valley Chapter No. 743 of the Purple Heart; recipient of the Bronze Star for action at Riquewihr, France; Diploma from the French Government National Association of the Cross of War, T.O.E. and Military Valor-Paris Citation ordered by the Army; and the Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two sisters, Doris Williams and Ruth Roth; a stepson, Gary Russell and a step-daughter, Chris Russell Schenerlein.

Surviving are his companion, Clair Thompson of Stafford, Ohio; a niece, Dee (Mike)

Vargo of Woodsfield, Ohio; a nephew, Stephen (Erlene) Williams of Chickasha, Oklahoma; a step-daughter, Connie (Hank) Kaufman of Johnstown, Ohio; a great-niece, Alexis Vargo; three great-nephews, Christian Vargo, Brian Williams and Jeff Williams; a special cousin, Rick (Kitty) Zerger of Caldwell, Ohio; several step-grandchildren; special friends including, Joe (Robin) Bishop of Woodsfield, Ohio, John Marshall of Columbus, Ohio and Mark (Lorie) Easton of South Carolina.

I was blessed to have the friendship of an icon of military service and the state Democratic Party. I pray for peace for his family during this troubling time.

HONORING 2021 CALIFORNIA TEACHER OF THE YEAR JIM KLIPFEL

HON. MIKE GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 1, 2021

Mr. GARCIA of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and honor California's 2021 Representative for Teacher of the Year, Mr. Jim Klipfel. A U.S. History teacher and Athletics coach from my alma mater of Saugus High School, Mr. Klipfel is the embodiment of academic passion, humility, and service to others. While his family, friends, and students would be the first to say that Mr. Klipfel is not one to embrace the spotlight, there is not a shadow of a doubt as to whether he truly deserves the honorific title of "Teacher of the Year".

At Saugus High School, Mr. Klipfel has served as an athletic and academic mentor to generations of students, going above and beyond what is normally expected of an educator to impart the leaders of tomorrow with invaluable lessons and qualities to help them succeed and make the world a better place. He has always challenged students to think for themselves, reject the status quo, and "pull back the curtain" to expose the faults of existing systems in the hopes of improving them. He has poured his heart and soul into his profession and the success of those whose education he has been entrusted with. It is not a responsibility that he takes lightly. His friends, colleagues, and most of all his students bear witness every day to how much Mr. Klipfel gives of himself to ensure the success of his students. He does so with unbridled intelligence, kindness, and above all else, passion.

Recognizing the unique challenges that American high schoolers face today, Mr. Klipfel has prioritized students' well-being and mental health while also pushing them to go beyond their comfort zone and realize their full potential. He achieves this by putting in the work to make himself available to any student who needs help and by walking them through mistakes in order to learn from them. He routinely holds after-hours study sessions to help students better prepare for tests, and never shies from lending a helping hand to those who may be in difficult situations outside the classroom. He always strives to teach his students lessons that will help them beyond academics, such as the value of charity, making the best out of difficult situations, and the importance of civic engagement.

In the face of numerous challenges over the past two years, Mr. Klipfel has proven to be a

resilient figure in the CA-25 community. After a school shooting in November of 2019, he helped his school rebuild and become stronger in the aftermath of tragedy. As the world transitioned to online learning and Zoom classes, Mr. Klipfel worked to keep students engaged and active in the classroom to ensure their continued academic success despite the odds facing them.

I am proud that such an exemplary teacher was selected to represent California's 25th District and California at large on the national stage and honored for his service and accomplishments. Mr. Klipfel no doubt represents the best of what teachers can be, and the promise of the future when we invest ourselves into helping young people realize their full potential inside and outside of the classroom. California's 25th district, our state, and our country are grateful for all Mr. Klipfel has given our community as he continues to inspire and educate the leaders of tomorrow.

TRIBUTE TO STEVEN BLANK

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 1, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Steve Blank, an entrepreneur who has inspired thousands of innovators to solve some of the world's most pressing problems.

Steve Blank was born in New York City to immigrant parents and attended the University of Michigan for one semester. He then served his country for four years in the U.S. Air Force, repairing fighter planes in Thailand.

Steve Blank was fortunate to return to Silicon Valley in the exciting 1970s. He worked for 21 years in high tech, and founded many companies, including Zilog, MIPS Computers, Convergent Technologies, E.piphany (now Epiphany) and retired in 1999. In the mid-1990s, he created the Customer Development model that focused on distinguishing between companies that execute business models as opposed to startups that search for them, thus launching the LeanStartup movement.

In 2011, Mr. Blank created the LeanLaunchPad experiential entrepreneurship class at Stanford University, Columbia Business School, and UC Berkeley. The LeanLaunchPad changed the way entrepreneurship is taught by giving students hands-on experience in what it takes to start a company instead of having them write business plans. Also in 2011, the National Science Foundation adopted Mr. Blank's LeanLaunchPad curriculum for its Innovation Corps (I-Corps), in order to help the nation's leading scientists and engineers learn how to take their tech ideas from the lab to the marketplace. The NSF I-Corps is now the standard for how scientific research is commercialized in the U.S. It has been adopted by other federal research agencies (including NIH, DOE, HHS, and NSA), and has trained 1,900 teams, and launched over 1,000 startups.

In 2016, Mr. Blank, Joe Felter, and Pete Newell created Hacking for Defense (H4D) at Stanford University—the first in a series of mission-driven entrepreneurship courses to provide a new platform for national service and change the way critical national security problems are solved. H4D is supported by